



241/259
Patent *ru*
1-27-00
5/a

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

DE LA TORRE ET AL.

Serial No. 09/340,908

Filed: June 28, 1999

For: **SCREW-TYPE SKIN SEAL WITH
INFLATABLE MEMBRANE**

Examiner: Eric Kline

Art Unit: 3763

RECEIVED
JAN 21 2000
TC 3763 MAIL ROOM

I. AMENDMENT

Box Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the office action dated October 14, 1999, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

bus
BI
A1
1. (Amended) A method of sealing a skin incision for performing a minimally invasive surgical procedure at a surgical site in a body, said method comprising:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
(37 C.F.R. §1.8a)

I have reasonable basis to expect that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) would be mailed from the United States Postal Service on the date indicated with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit

1/13/00

Christina Kavanaugh

Name of Person Mailing Paper

Signature of Person Mailing Paper